

JOSEPH P. RILEY, JR. MAYOR

City of Charleston South Carolina

BARBARA W. VAUGHN DIRECTOR PUBLIC INFORMATION

1

FOR RELEASE: February 13, 2012

STATEMENT

MAYOR JOSEPH P. RILEY, JR.

RE: HARBOR DEEPENING FUNDS IN OBAMA BUDGET

"I would like to thank President Obama for his personal interest in ensuring that funding for the deepening of Charleston Harbor is contained in his 2013 budget. The deepening of Charleston's Harbor is critically important to our port, our community, our region, and our state's economic success in the future. A deepened harbor translates into jobs in our community and throughout South Carolina and is a great benefit to businesses in this part of our country.

I met with President Obama in January 2011 to stress the cost effectiveness of the deepening of Charleston Harbor and its importance not only to our region but to our country. Last month, I had the opportunity to meet with President Obama in the White House again and urged the inclusion of the Charleston Harbor Deepening in his 2013 budget. The President had clearly been following this initiative and affirmed his support and at that time stated that it would be included in his budget.

I wish also to thank Congressman Jim Clyburn and Senator Lindsey Graham who both worked very hard to ensure that the deepening of Charleston Harbor be included in our national budget. I also want to thank and congratulate Jim Newsome and the South Carolina State Ports Authority team for their tremendous hard work, which was essential for today's announcement to be possible."

FOR MORE INFO: Barbara Vaughn, Director

Media Relations/Public Information Phone: (843) 724-3746 Fax: (843) 724-3734

Email: vaughnb@charleston-sc.gov